

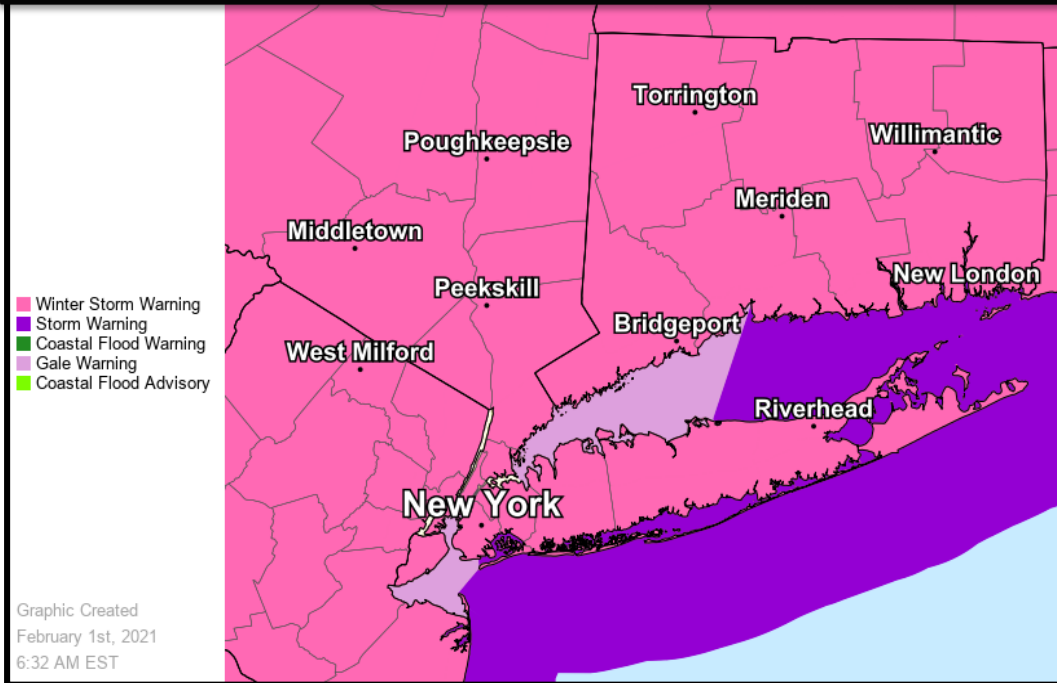
# Major Winter Storm Underway

## Decision Support Briefing #5 As of: 6:00 AM Feb 1, 2021



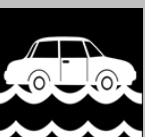


### What Has Changed?

- ✓ No major changes to the heavy snow and wind forecasts.
- ✓ Coastal flood warnings have been expanded for Monday night high tide. Widespread moderate to locally major coastal Flood impacts.

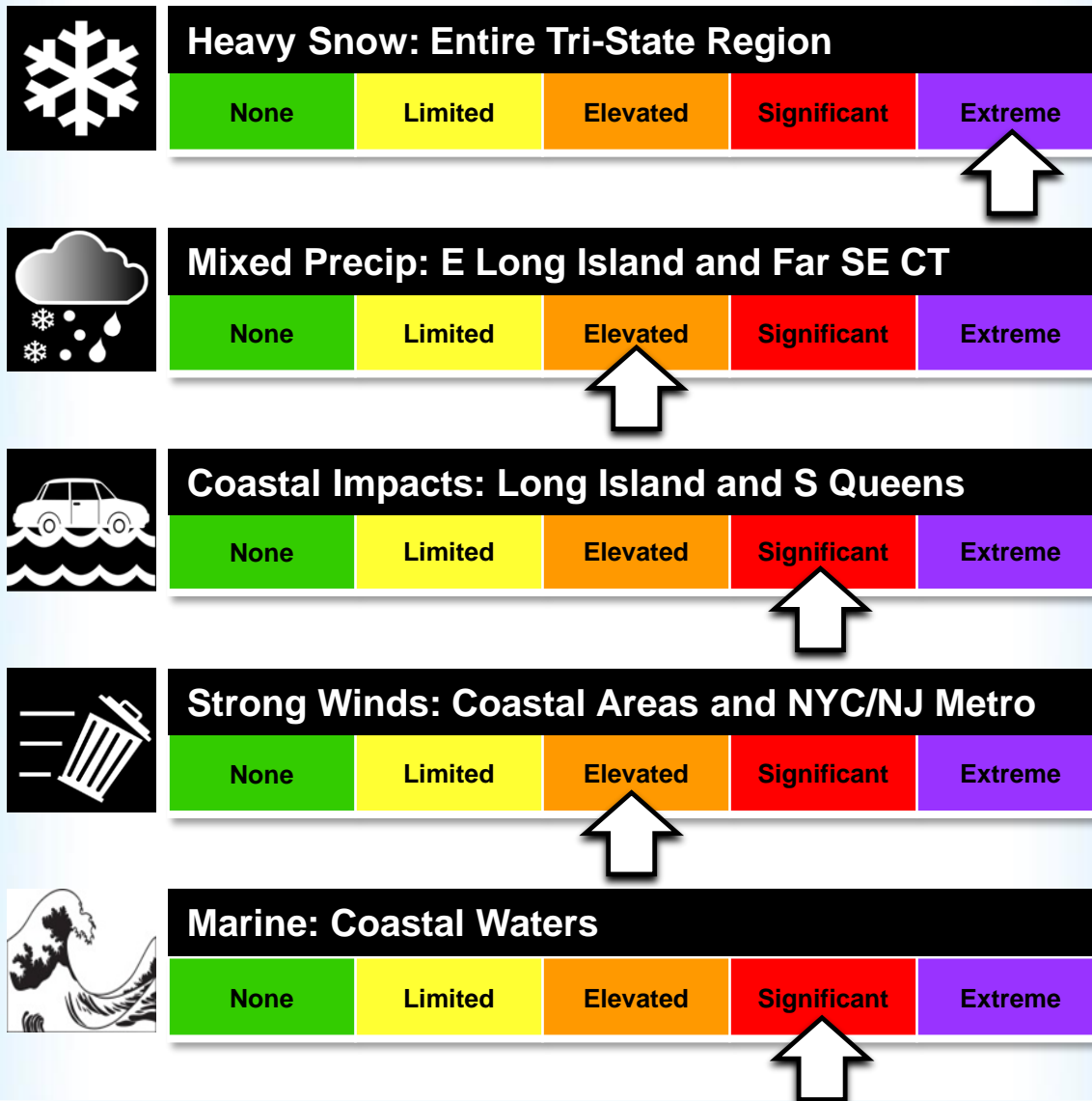
### Current Hazards



## Main Points

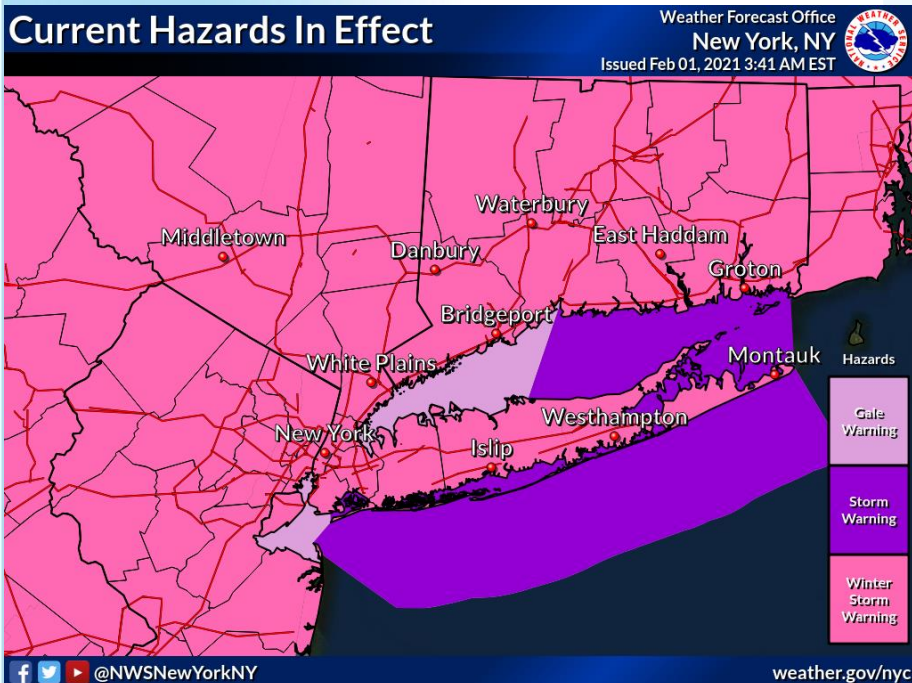
Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
<b>Heavy Snow</b> <b>14-20" W LI/NYC</b> <b>18-24"</b> <b>North/West</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Snowfall rates of 2-3 inches/hr</li> <li>Near blizzard conditions</li> <li>Difficult to impossible travel</li> </ul>	<b>Much of the Tri-State Region</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy snow into this evening</li> <li>Periods of light snow/wintry mix tonight into Tue</li> </ul>
<b>Heavy Snow/ Mixed Precip</b> <b>6-12" E LI/SE CT</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy Snow</li> <li>Difficult Travel</li> </ul>	<b>E Long Island and Far SE CT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy Snow into this afternoon</li> <li>Starts to mix with sleet/rain late this afternoon</li> <li>Periods of light rain/snow/sleet tonight into Tuesday</li> </ul>
<b>Coastal Impacts</b> <b>2-3 ft Inundation above ground level (AGL)</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderate to locally Major coastal flood impacts</li> <li>Areas of dune erosion and localized overwashes</li> </ul>	<b>Greatest Impacts along Long Island S shore/ E bays</b> <b>Dune Impacts: Oceanfront</b>	<b>Times of high tide Today and Tonight</b>
<b>Strong Winds</b> <b>35-40G55mph Twin Forks</b> <b>25-30G40-45 NYC/NJ metro &amp; rest of coast</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scattered downed tree limbs and power lines.</li> <li>Near blizzard conditions today</li> </ul>	<b>Coastal Areas, including NYC/NJ metro</b>	<b>Today into Tonight</b>
<b>Marine</b> <b>Gale to Storm conditions</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seas 13-18 ft on the Ocean</li> <li>Seas 6-9 ft central/eastern Long Island Sound</li> </ul>	<b>Coastal Waters out 20 nm</b>	<b>Today into Tonight</b>

## Summary of Greatest Impacts



# Heavy Snow

**Winter Storm Warnings Remain in effect through Tuesday AM**



## Hazards:

- ✓ **Much of the Region** – 14-22" total snowfall expected
  - ✓ Snowfall rates: 2-3"/hr daytime today
  - ✓ Temperatures: Upper 20s/lower 30s NYC/coast, lower/mid 20s inland
- ✓ **E Long Island and Far SE CT** – 6-14" of snow expected, mixing with rain/sleet this afternoon into Tue AM

## Impacts:

- ✓ Difficult to Impossible travel today and tonight
- ✓ Scattered downed tree limbs and power outages likely along the coast
- ✓ Blowing/drifting snow; near blizzard conditions expected

## Timing:

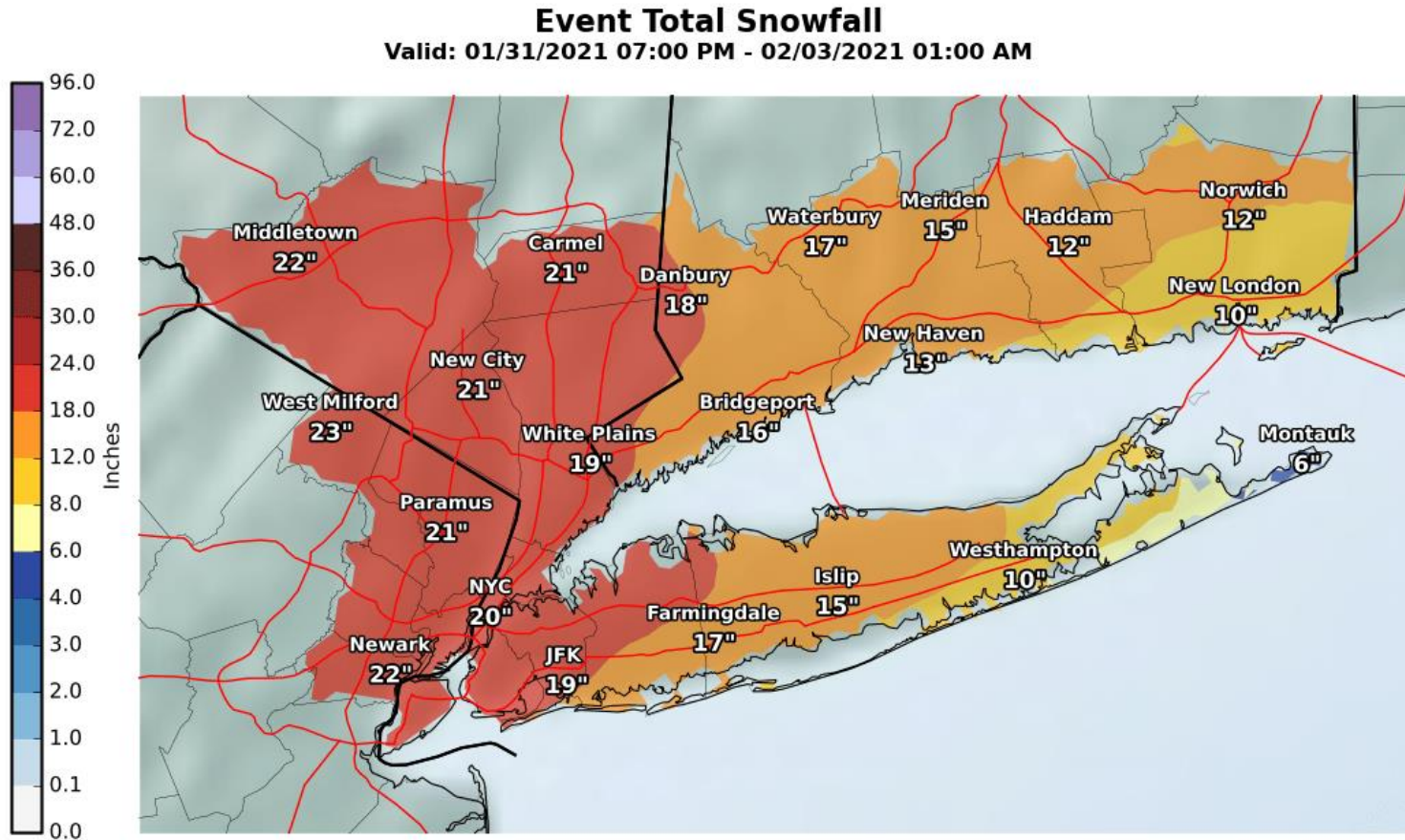
- ✓ Heavy snow this morning into the afternoon
- ✓ Periods of light/moderate snow tonight into Tue

## Forecast Challenges:

- ✓ Location/duration of heavy snow banding late this morning into afternoon.
- ✓ How far NW and for how long do rain/sleet mix in along the coast, especially across E Long Island and Far SE CT?



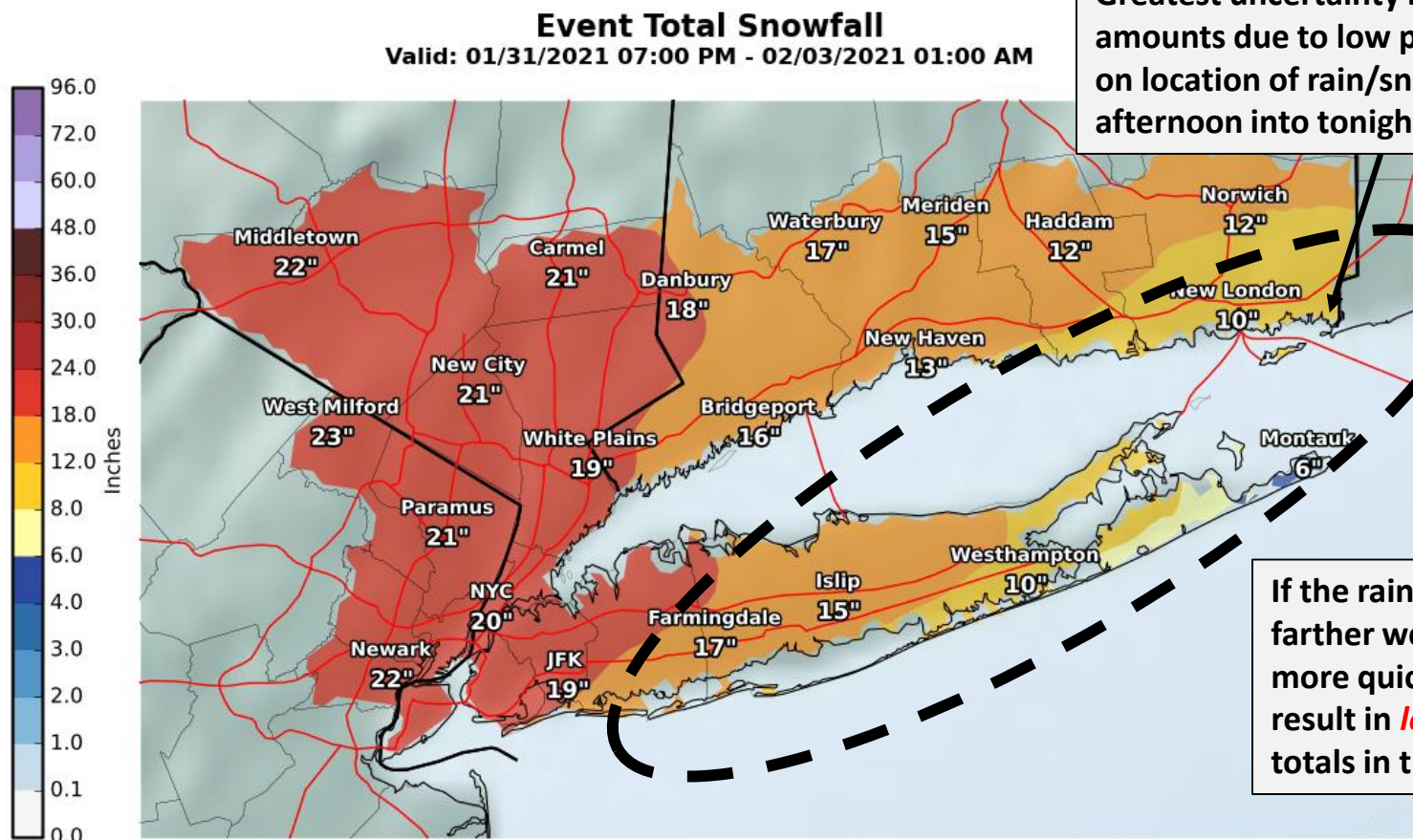
# Most Likely Snowfall – Official Forecast



**National Weather Service**  
New York NY  
02/01/2021 03:56 AM EST

**Follow Us:** [weather.gov/nyc/winter](https://weather.gov/nyc/winter)

## Rain/Snow Line Timing/Location Uncertainty

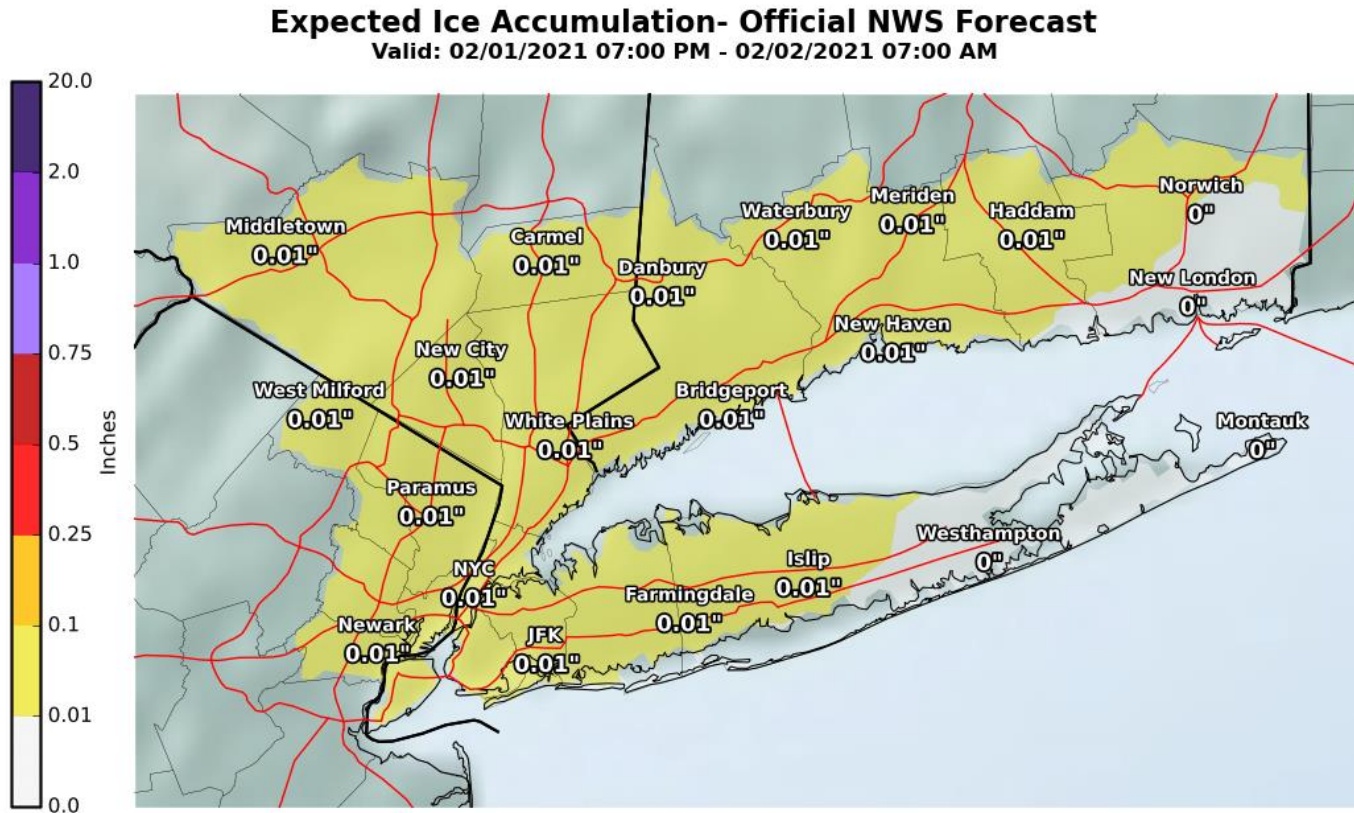


Greatest uncertainty in snowfall amounts due to low predictability on location of rain/snow line this afternoon into tonight.

If the rain/snow line is farther west and moves more quickly, this will result in **lower** snowfall totals in this area.



## Most Likely Ice Accumulation – Official Forecast

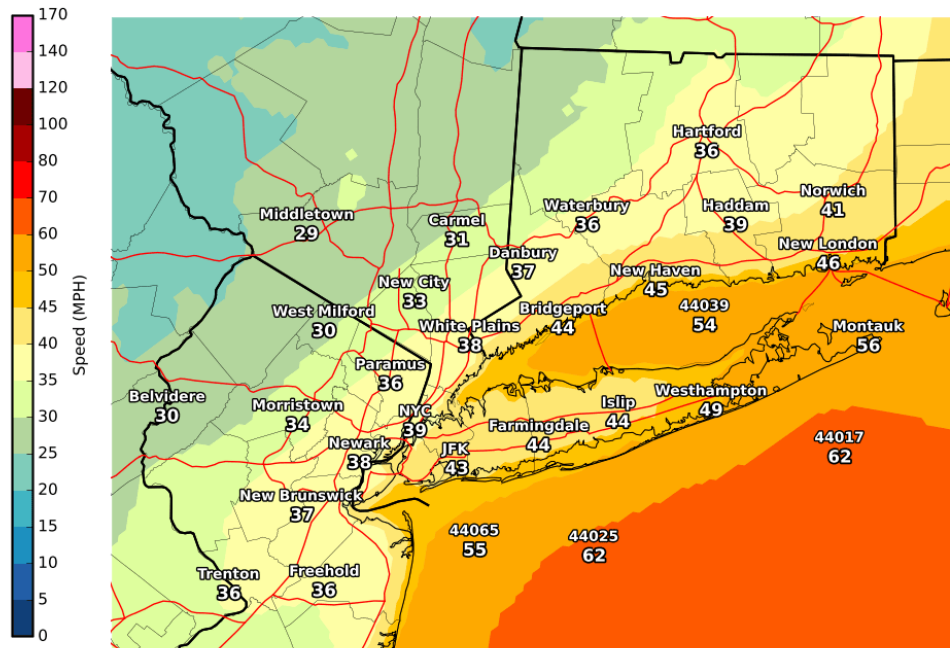


**National Weather Service**  
New York NY  
02/01/2021 03:58 AM EST

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[weather.gov/nyc/winter](https://weather.gov/nyc/winter)

# Strong Winds

**Maximum Wind Gust (MPH)**  
Valid: 02/01/2021 04:00 AM - 02/06/2021 04:00 AM EST



National Weather Service  
New York NY  
02/01/2021 04:05 AM EST

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weather.gov/nyc

## Hazards: Peak Winds

- ✓ **Eastern Long Island**
  - ✓ NE winds 30-40 mph with gusts 50-55 mph
- ✓ **NYC & Remainder of Coast**
  - ✓ NE winds 20-30 mph with gusts 40-45 mph
- ✓ **Interior**
  - ✓ NE 15-20 mph with gusts 30-35 mph

## Impacts:

- ✓ Scattered downed tree limbs and power lines likely along the coast.
- ✓ Near blizzard conditions near the coast

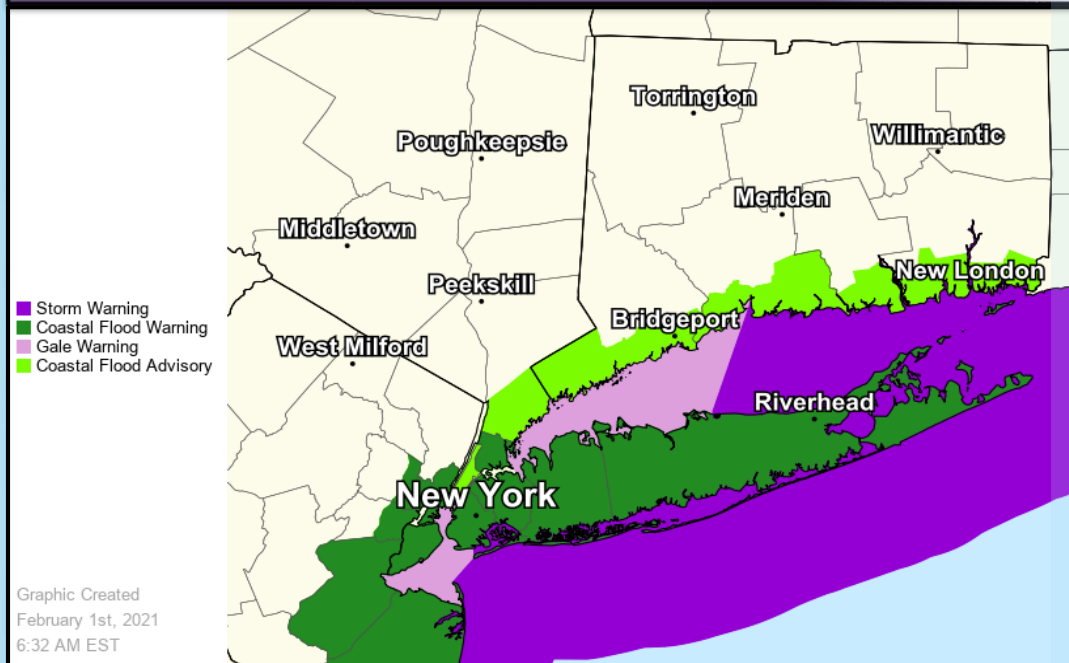
## Timing:

- ✓ Duration: Today into tonight
- ✓ Peak Winds: 3-8 PM tonight



# Coastal Flooding – Coastal Flood Warnings Remain in Effect for Today and Tonight High Tides

## Marine / Coastal Hazards



## Coastal Flood Hazards and Impacts:

- ✓ Minor to moderate impacts daytime today
  - ✓ Greatest threat of moderate inundation (2-2.5 ft above ground) along south shores of Nassau/Queens
- ✓ Widespread **Moderate to locally MAJOR** coastal flood impacts Tonight
  - ✓ Greatest threat of moderate to locally major (3 ft above ground) along the Long Island south shore and eastern bays
  - ✓ Several waterfront road closures and potential property damage

## Shoreline Hazards and Impacts:

- ✓ Breaking waves 5-10 ft oceanfront, 3-6 ft Long Island Sound shoreline and Twin Forks
- ✓ Widespread ocean beach erosion/flooding  
Areas of dune erosion and isolated washovers along oceanfront Mon into Tue high tide cycles

## Additional Details:

- ✓ Flooding will likely start well before times of high tide tonight and continue well after.
- ✓ Minor to locally moderate flooding up riverine areas of Lower Hud and NE NJ likely tonight
- ✓ Additional minor to moderate flooding likely during Tue high tide cycles. Highest threat of moderate flooding for the Long Island south shore bays Tue Am.

Please go to the NWS New York, NY Coastal Flooding Page for the latest coastal flood forecast and the tools to visualize the coastal impacts.

<https://www.weather.gov/okx/coastalflood>

# Coastal Flooding –Inundation Areas

Greatest threat areas for Moderate inundation (2-2 ½ ft AGL) during high tides tonight.

(Likely inundation areas of inundation are shaded in orange. Potential areas of inundation are shaded in Red)



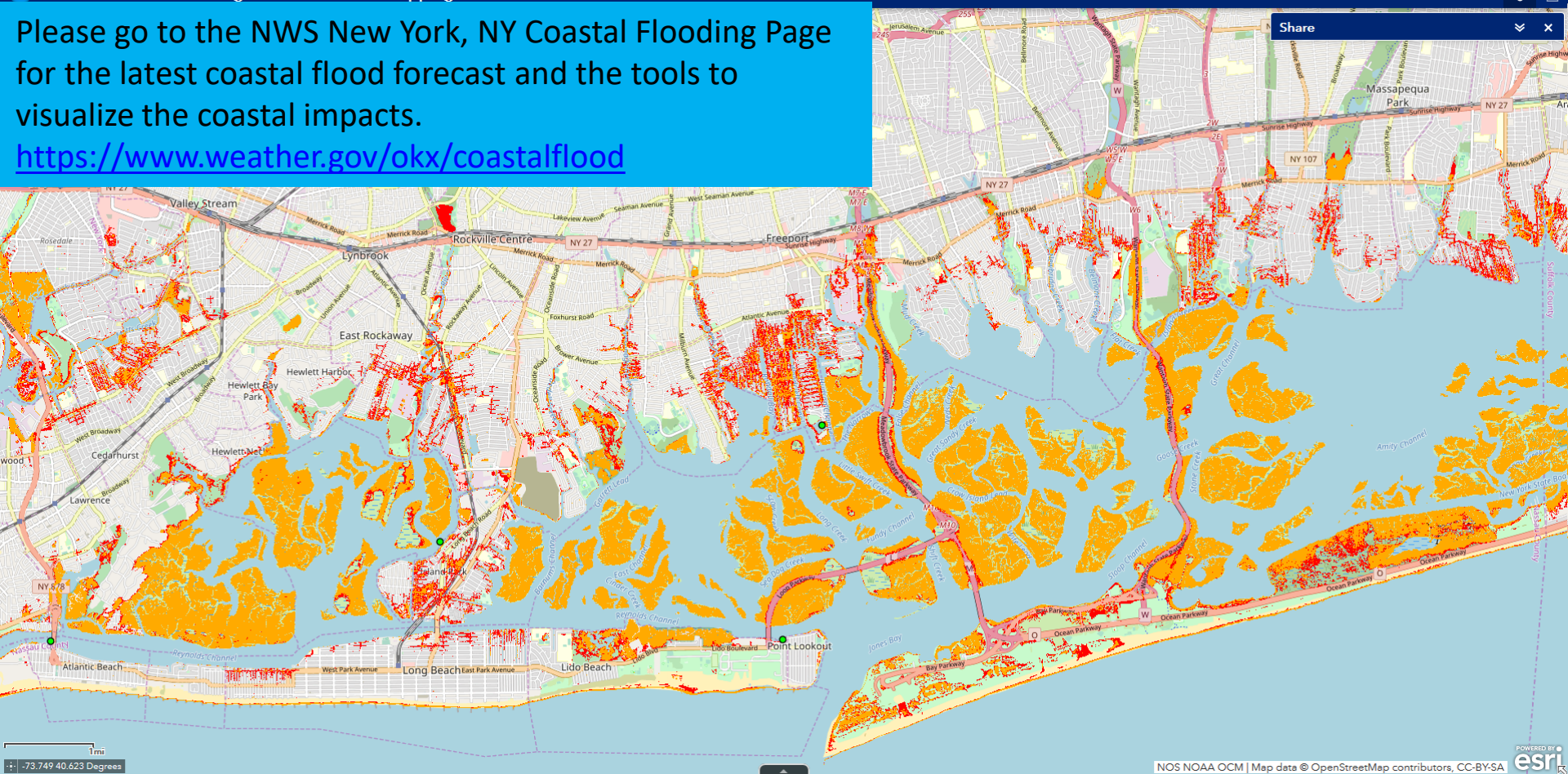


# Coastal Flooding – Inundation Areas

**Greatest threat areas for Moderate to locally Major inundation (2-3 ft AGL) during high tides tonight.**  
**(Likely inundation areas of inundation are shaded in orange. Potential areas of inundation are shaded in Red)**

 NWS/COOPS Eastern Region Coastal Flood Mapping Minor, Moderate, and Major Flood Threshold Layers

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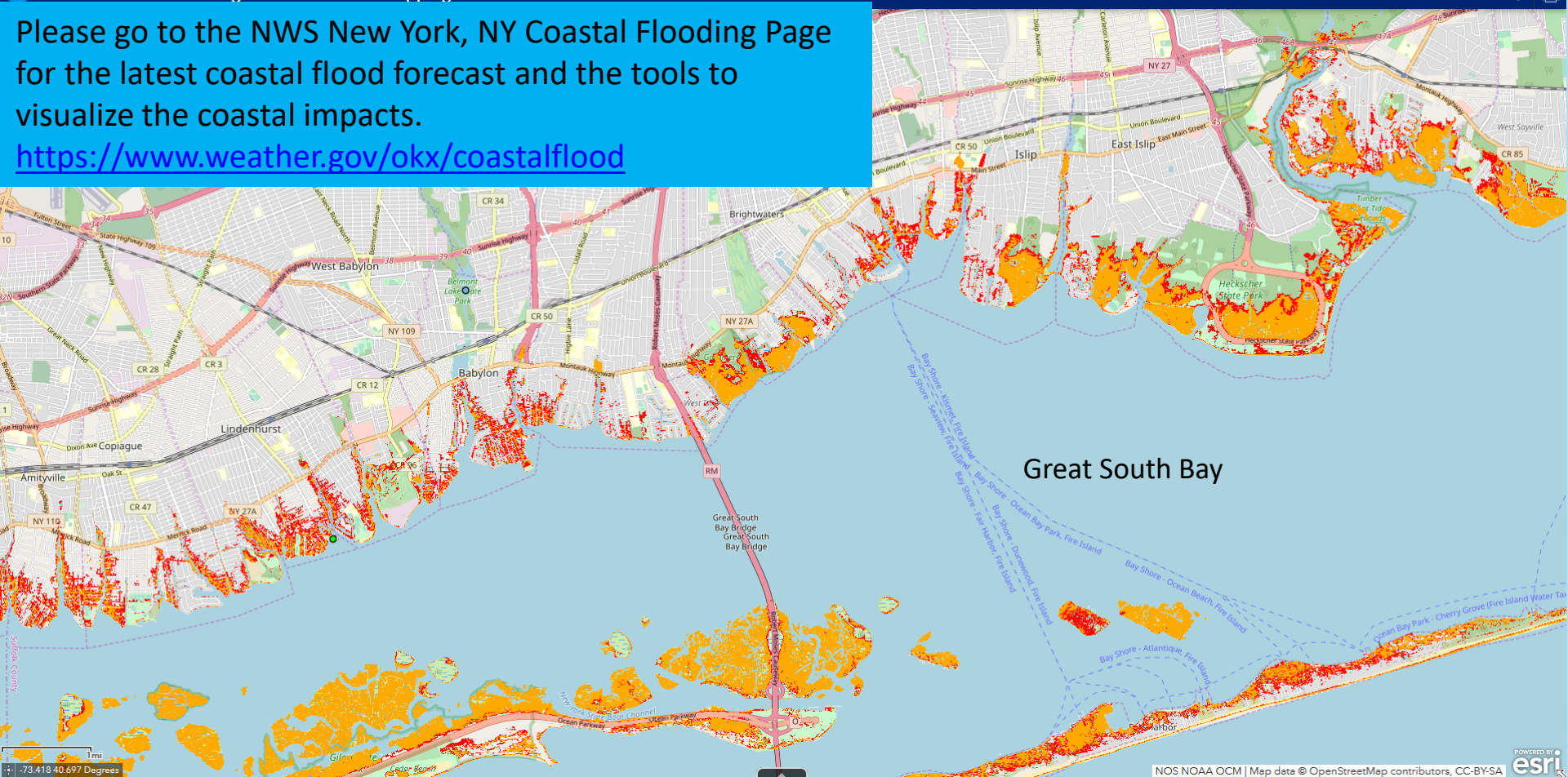
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Minor, Moderate, and Major Flood Threshold Layers



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 **esri**



# Coastal Flooding – Inundation Areas

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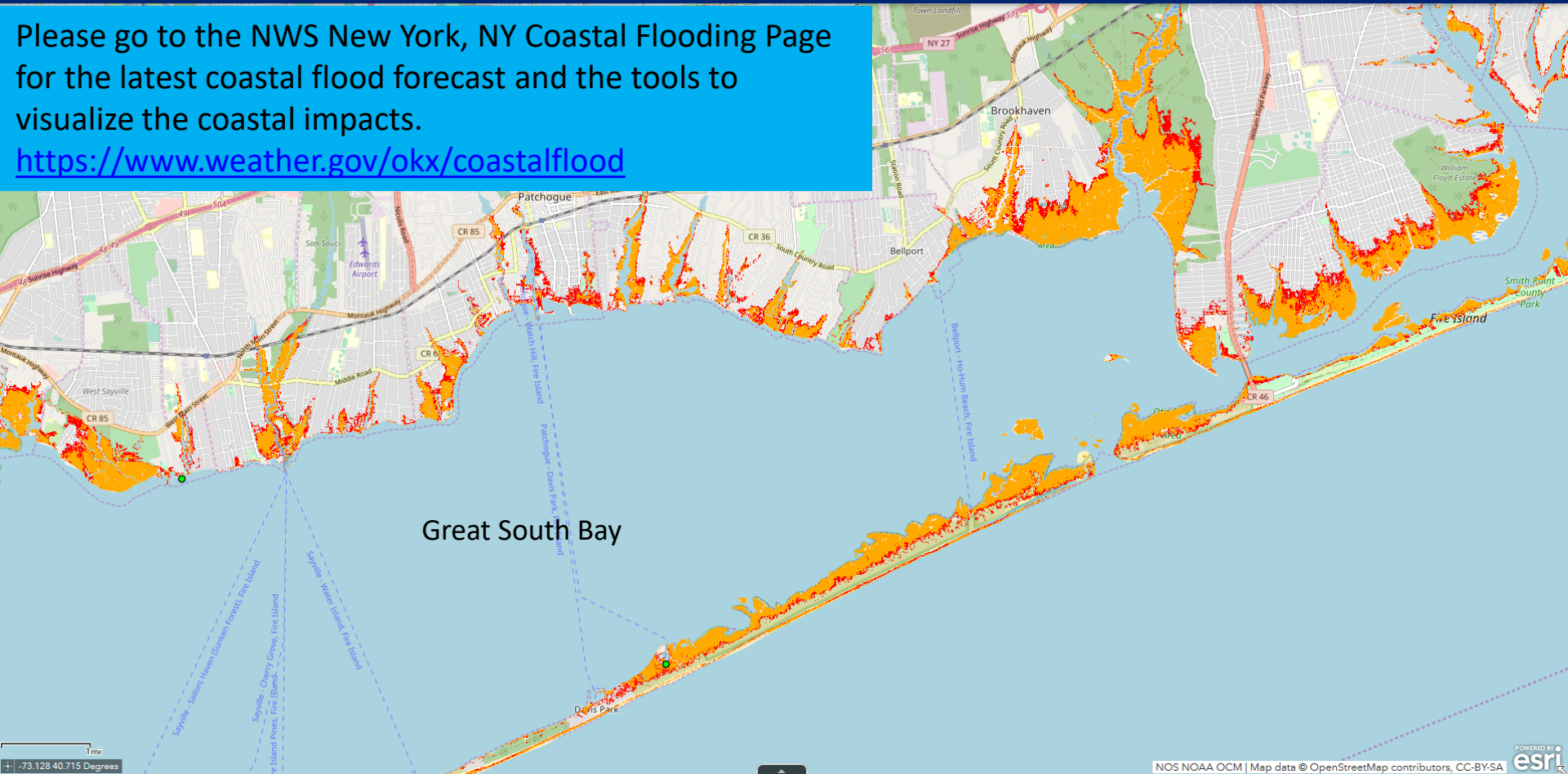
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-73.128 40.715 Degrees

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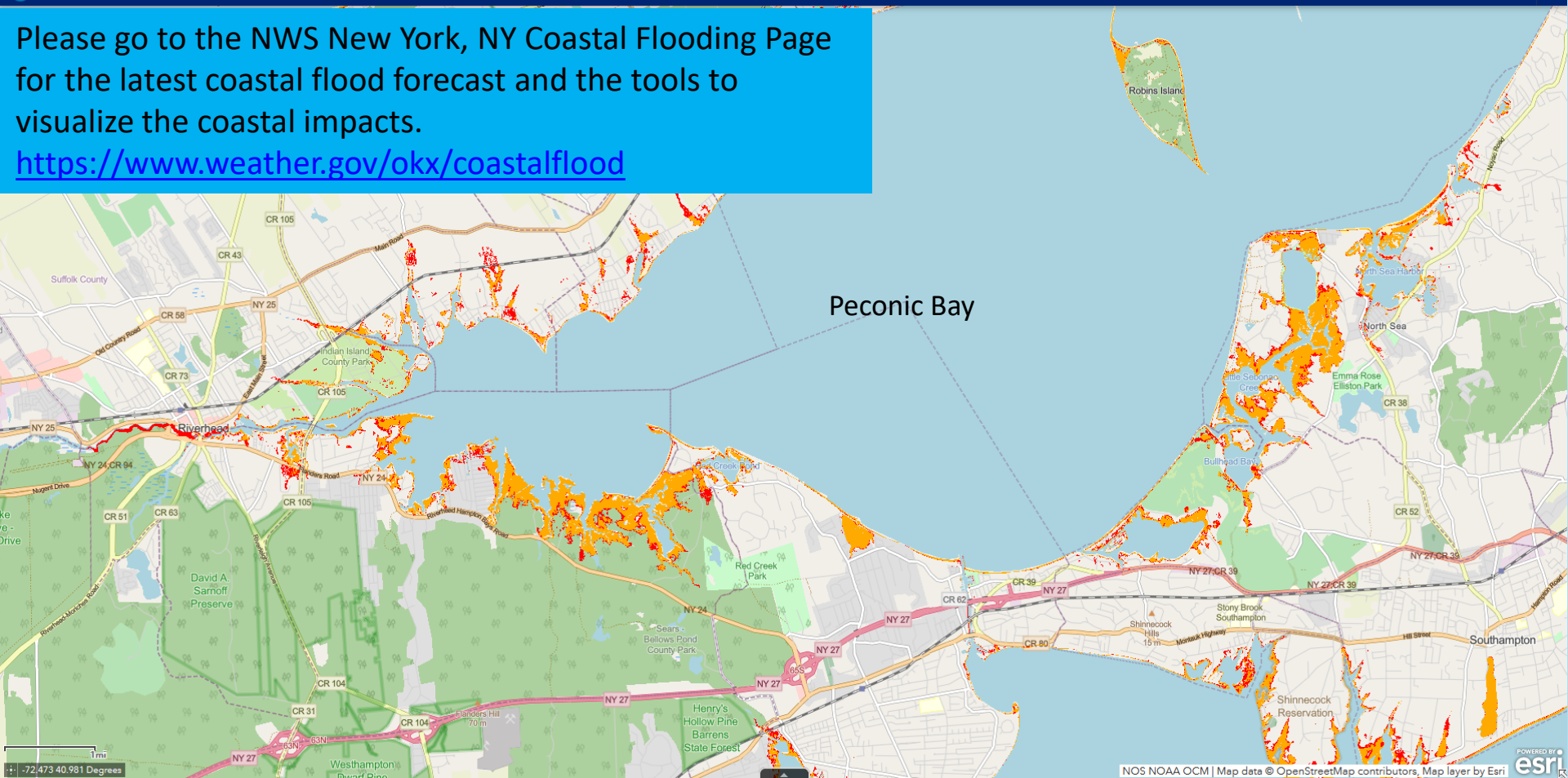

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# Event Summary

- ✓ **Winter Storm Warnings remain in effect into Tuesday AM**
  - ✓ Heavy Snow (14-20") expected for Much of the Region
    - ✓ 2-3"/hr snowfall rates this morning into the afternoon
    - ✓ Near blizzard conditions expected especially closer to the coast
  - ✓ Lower snowfall totals of 6-12" expected for SE CT and E Long Island
- ✓ **Strong Winds for the City/Coast**
  - ✓ 20-35 mph with gusts 40-55 mph today into this evening
- ✓ **Coastal Flood Warnings in effect for Long Island, NYC ,and coastal NE NJ for today and tonight**
  - ✓ Minor to locally moderate coastal flooding with today's AM/early PM high tides
  - ✓ Widespread Moderate to locally Major coastal flood potential with Tonight's high tide
- ✓ **Storm Warnings today into Tuesday for much of the coastal waters. Gale Warning for the Western LI Sound and NY Harbor today into Tuesday.**